Patent Claims

- 1. A method for producing a cylindrical glass body, in particular a quartz glass 5 body, in a vertical drawing process, comprising a method step in which a glass blank is supplied to a heating zone, softened therein zonewise and a glass strand is drawn off by means of a draw-off device at a controlled drawing speed from the softened area, said draw-off device comprising a first draw-off unit with rolling bodies rolling on said glass strand and being 10 distributed around the circumference thereof, said rolling bodies being formed by a reference rolling body and at least one auxiliary rolling body. the drawing speed being controlled via the speed of said reference rolling body, characterized in that a value for the torque of said reference rolling body (3) is determined in dependence upon the weight of the drawn-off 15 glass strand (5), and that the determined value is used as a setpoint torque for setting the torque in said at least one auxiliary rolling body (4; 7; 8).
 - 2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that said torque in said at least one auxiliary rolling body (4; 7; 8) is set to said setpoint torque.

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- 3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that a draw-off device is used which comprises at least one second draw-off unit (2) including a plurality of rolling bodies (7; 8).
- The method according to claim 3, characterized in that said rolling bodies (7; 8) of said at least one second draw-off unit (2) are movable in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (15) of said glass strand (5).
- 5. The method according to claim 3 or 4, characterized in that said rolling bodies of said at least one second draw-off unit are used as auxiliary rolling bodies (7; 8), the setpoint torque thereof being set with reference to the torque of said reference rolling body (3).

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- 6. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that said rolling bodies (3; 4; 7; 8) are pressed with an adjustable contact pressure force (34) against said glass strand (5).
- 5 7. The method according to claim 6, characterized in that said contact pressure force (34) is set in dependence upon the weight of the drawn-off glass strand (5).
- 8. The method according to claim 3 and any one of claims 6 or 7,

 10 characterized in that, when a predetermined maximum contact pressure
 force is exceeded in said rolling bodies (3; 4) of said first draw-off unit (1),
 said rolling bodies (7; 8) of said second draw-off unit (2) are additionally
 brought into engagement with said glass strand (5), or said contact
 pressure force is increased in rolling bodies of said second draw-off unit
 that are in engagement with said glass strand.
 - 9. The method according to any one of claims 7 or 8, characterized in that the control of said contact pressure force (14) comprises a damping member (21).
 - 10. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that rolling bodies (3; 4; 7; 8) are used with a roll surface (9) having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5
- The method according to claim 10, characterized in that said roll surface (9) contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.

- 12. An apparatus for producing a cylindrical glass body, in particular a quartz glass body, in a vertical drawing process, comprising an annular heating element for heating and softening a glass blank, comprising a draw-off device including a frame which holds thereon a first draw-off unit with rolling bodies rolling on said glass strand and being distributed around the circumference thereof, said rolling bodies being formed by a reference rolling body and at least one auxiliary rolling body, said reference rolling body being connected to a speed control for setting the drawing speed, characterized in that there is provided a means (13) for determining the torque during rolling of said reference rolling body (3), and a means (14) for setting the torque in said at least one auxiliary rolling body (4; 7; 8) to a setpoint torque.
- 13. The apparatus according to claim 12, characterized in that said draw-off device comprises at least one second draw-off unit (2) comprising a plurality of rolling bodies (7; 8).
- The apparatus according to claim 13, characterized in that said second draw-off unit (2) is held in said frame, and that said rolling bodies (7; 8) of said at least one second draw-off unit (2) are movably held on said frame in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (15) of said glass strand (5).
- 15. The apparatus according to claim 13 or 14, characterized in that said rolling bodies (7; 8) of said second draw-off unit (2) are connected to a means (14) for setting said torque.
- 16. The apparatus according to any one of claims 12 to 15, characterized in that there is provided a contact pressure force control unit (25; 37; 38) by means of which said rolling bodies (3; 4; 7; 8) are pressed with an adjustable contact pressure force (34) against said glass strand (5).

- 17. The apparatus according to claim 16, characterized in that said contact pressure force control unit (25; 37; 38) comprises a damping member (21).
- 18. The apparatus according to any one of claims 12 to 17, characterized in that there is provided a pivot device by means of which said frame is pivotable about a tilt angle relative to the vertical.
- 19. An apparatus for producing a cylindrical glass body, in particular a quartz glass body, in a vertical drawing process, comprising an annular heating element for heating and softening a glass blank, comprising a draw-off device including a frame which holds thereon a first draw-off unit with rolling bodies rolling on said glass strand and being distributed around the circumference thereof, said rolling bodies being formed by a reference rolling body and at least one auxiliary rolling body, said reference rolling body being connected to a speed control for setting the drawing speed, characterized in that said rolling bodies (3; 4; 7; 8) are provided with a roll surface having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5
- The apparatus according to claim 19, characterized in that said roll surface(9) contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.